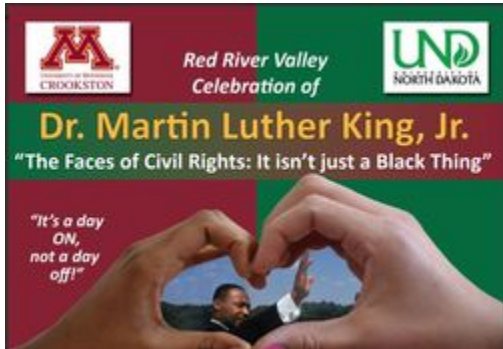


## News Release

# U of M Crookston to Co-sponsor Martin Luther King, Jr., Celebration on Monday, January 20, 2014; Activities begin at 11 a.m. at Central High School in Grand Forks, N.D., for a Unity Walk to the Empire Arts Center with Program Following

By Itollefs on Monday, December 23, 2013

The public is invited to an area-wide Martin Luther King, Jr., celebration taking place in Grand Forks, N.D., on Monday, January 20, 2014, and is the result of a collaboration between the University of North Dakota and the University of Minnesota Crookston. The Red River Valley Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is designed around the theme: "The Faces of Civil Rights: It isn't just a Black Thing."



The day's events will kick off at 11 a.m. with a Unity Walk beginning at Central High School in Grand Forks. At 11:30, a celebration program will be held at the Empire Arts Center located at 415 Demers Ave, Grand Forks, N.D. Featured in the program will be the Northstar Council, Red River High School Building Bridges, Central High School art display, Spoken Word, the Diversity Award presentation, the UM Crookston Choir and UM Crookston Black Student Association. UM Crookston Chancellor Fred wood will be speaking. Following the program there will be a social.

At 1:30 p.m., the UND Student Senate and North Dakota Student Association service project at the Empire Arts Center. Students, faculty, and staff from the UM Crookston will be engaged in a service project at 2:30 p.m. at the North Country Food Bank in Crookston.

### Background

This event is an opportunity for everyone to honor legacy of Dr. King. As the spokesperson for the nonviolent civil rights movement, King worked tirelessly. He was assassinated in 1968, and a day commemorating his legacy is held the third Monday of January each year. The observance was first held in January 1986, after being signed into law by President Ronald Reagan in 1983, but it wasn't until 2006 that the holiday became official in all 50 states.

Sponsors for the event include Marcos Pizza; Caribou Coffee; Pizza Ranch; Olive Garden; Ground Round; Sam's Club, US Foods, O' for Heaven's Cakes N' More, Super-One Foods; Deeks Pizza, Maurices; Bonzers, and Buffalo Wild Wings, all of Grand Forks; Jimmy John's of North Dakota; Community Foundation of Grand Forks, East Grand Forks and Region; UND Dining Services; UND Multicultural Services; and UMC Diversity and Multicultural Services.

### Evening Event

Later in the evening, the U of M Crookston is hosting Pulitzer Prize winning author and historian Taylor Branch in the Kiehle Auditorium at the University of Minnesota Crookston at 7 p.m. The event is free and all are welcome. This activity is funded, in part, by a grant from the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council and the Minnesota arts and cultural heritage fund appropriated by the Minnesota Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008. Other sponsors include the Northwest Minnesota Foundation, the Lake Agassiz Regional Library, Crookston High School, and Academic Affairs, Campus Ministry, Concerts & Lectures, Honors Program, and Career and Counseling at the U of M Crookston.

Today the University of Minnesota Crookston delivers 28 bachelor's degree programs, 20 minors, and 39 concentrations on campus--as well as 11 degrees online--in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of 1,800 undergraduates from 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit [www.umcrookston.edu](http://www.umcrookston.edu).

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2900 University Ave., Crookston, MN 56716  
800-862-6466 | 218-281-6510 | [umcinfo@umn.edu](mailto:umcinfo@umn.edu)

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